

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 4 and 7, cancel Claims 3, 5, 6 and 8-31, and add Claims 32-35 as indicated:

1. (currently amended) A disk drive enclosure for housing a plurality of disk drives, the enclosure being arranged to provide enclosure services to the plurality of disk drives, the enclosure comprising:

an enclosure services processor;

at least one disk drive arrangement including a disk drive and a serial adapter coupled non-serially thereto;

a serial data bus coupled between the enclosure services processor and the [[at least one]] serial adapter, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the [[at least one]] serial adapter is arranged for communicating serially with the enclosure services processor and non-serially with the at least one respective disk drive, such that enclosure services data may be exchanged therebetween, and wherein the serial data bus is arranged to operate with an I2C serial protocol, and wherein the serial data bus is a three line serial data bus having a data line, a clock line, and an interrupt line, and wherein the serial data bus includes a discrete interrupt connection between the serial adapter and the enclosure services processor.

2. (original) The enclosure of claim 1 characterized in that the disk drive has an address connection for selectively coupling to one of addressing means and the adapter and wherein the adapter includes data switching means and serial conversion means, the data switching means being arranged to selectively switch the address connection between the addressing means and the serial conversion means.

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The enclosure of claim [[3]] 1 characterized in that the adapter is a discrete element interposed between the disk drive and the enclosure.

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) The enclosure of claim [[3]] 1 characterized in that the adapter is integrated with interfacing circuitry of the enclosure.

8-31. (cancelled)

32. (new) A system comprising:

a computer housing;

a backplane in the computer housing, wherein the backplane includes means for providing an address used to store data in a disk drive;

a multiplexer coupled to the disk drive, wherein the multiplexer selectively sends addresses from the backplane and data from a serial data bus that is controlled by an Enclosure Service Interface (ESI) processor; and

a Serializer/Deserializer (SER/DES) interposed between the serial data bus and the multiplexer, wherein the SER/DES converts serial data into parallel data to be sent to the disk drive via the multiplexer.

33. (new) The system of claim 32, wherein the ESI processor identifies the disk drive from an array of disk drives as being a target disk drive for received or requested data, and wherein the ESI receives or requests data from the identified disk drive.

34. (new) The system of claim 32, wherein the serial data bus includes a single data line, a single clock line, and a separate interrupt line for each disk drive in a plurality of disk drives.

35. (new) A method comprising:

during a normal operating state, obtaining, from a backplane in a computer housing, a Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop (FC-AL) address for data storable in a disk drive;

in response to a request for Enclosure Service Interface (ESI) services, switching a multiplexer, which is coupled to the disk drive, to receive data associated with the FC-AL

address, wherein the data has been converted from serial form, when on a serial data bus, to parallel form by a Serializer/Deserializer (SER/DES) that is interposed between the multiplexer and the serial data bus;

sending the parallel data to the disk drive via the multiplexer; and

in response to the parallel data being sent to the disk drive, automatically resetting the multiplexer such that FC-AL addresses can once again be sent from the backplane to the disk drive.